## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 049743 ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 OES-06 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAL-01 /114 R

DRAFTED BY L/OES/DACOLSON:SCH APPROVED BY L MR. FELDMAN ARA/CAR - MR. THYDEN (SUBS) OES/OFA - MR. SCULLY

-----071449Z 056208 /44

R 071400Z MAR 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PLOS, EFIS

SUBJECT: U.S.-BAHAMAS MARITIME BOUNDARY

1) FOLLOWING DIPLOMATIC NOTE WAS GIVEN TO BAHAMIAN EMBASSY MARCH4, 1977.

BEGIN TEXT: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE REFERS THE EMBASSY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS TO THE UNITED STATES FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 WHICH ESTABLISHED, EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 1977, A 200 NAUTICAL MILE FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE OFF THE COASTS OF THE UNITED STATES, AND TO DISCUSSIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN NASSAU ON FEBRUARY 24 AND 25 REGARDING THE LIMITS OF THE FISHERY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 049743

CONSERVATION ZONE IN AREAS OF CONCERN TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS.

THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS
THAT MARITIME BOUNDARIES ARE TO BE DETERMINED BY AGREEMENT
AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH EQUITABLE PRINCIPLES. PENDING
ESTABLISHMENT OF MARITIME BOUNDARIES BY AGREEMENT, THE

GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH THE PROVISIONAL LIMITS OF THE FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE. UNTIL AGREEMENT IS REACHED REGARDING MARITIME BOUNDARIES IN THE AREA, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO ENFORCE ITS FISHERY JURISDICTION IN THE AREA BETWEEN

THE UNITED STATES AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS UP TO A LINE AS DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED PAPER.

THE DEPARTMENT WISHES TO INFORM THE EMBASSY OF THE WILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER FURTHER WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS, AND TO NOTE THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES THAT THE AFOREMENTIONED LIMIT OF FISHERY JURISDICTION IS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE VIEWS OF EITHER GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE EXTENT OF INTERNAL WATERS, THE TERRITORIAL SEA OR THE HIGH SEAS OR TO ANY POSITION WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE FUTURE REGARDING THE LOCATION OF THE MARITIME BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS. END TEXT.

- 2) AT TIME OF DELIVERY OF NOTE, MAP SHOWING U.S. FISHERY ENFORCEMENT LINE WAS ALSO GIVEN TO THE EMBASSY.
- 3) REFERENCED QUOTE ATTACHED PAPER END QUOTE IS A LIST OF 98 GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES WHICH FORM THE FISHERY ZONE LINE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE BAHAMAS. A COPY OF THIS LIST OF COORDINATES IS BEING POUCHED TO THE EMBASSY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 049743

VANCE

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: DIPLOMATIC NOTES, TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT, BOUNDARY CLAIMS

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Disposition Event:
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Subject: U.S.-BAHAMAS MARITIME BOUNDARY 1) FOLLOWING DIPLOMATIC NOTE WAS GIVEN TO BAHAMIAN EM- BASSY MARCH4, 1977.

TAGS: PBOR, PLOS, EFIS, BF, US

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